MARVEL

'Til Death Do Us Part

28
PART 3

X-MEN GOLD

GUGGENHEIM
BANDINI
PRIANTO
MARQUEZ
WILSON

X-MEN GOLD

GENETICALLY GIFTED WITH UNCANNY ABILITIES, MUTANTS ARE BELIEVED TO BE THE NEXT STAGE OF HUMAN EVOLUTION. WHILE THE WORLD HATES AND FEARS THEM, KITTY PRYDE HAS RE-FORMED THE TEAM OF MUTANT HEROES KNOWN AS THE X-MEN TO USE THEIR POWERS FOR GOOD AND SPREAD A POSITIVE IMAGE OF MUTANTKIND.

PREVIOUSLY IN *X-MEN GOLD...*

WHEN KITTY PRYDE RECONNECTED WITH THE X-MEN, SHE ALSO RECONNECTED WITH FORMER LOVER PIOTR RASPUTIN. THEIR NEW ROMANCE QUICKLY BLOSSOMED INTO AN ENGAGEMENT.

IN ONE OF THEIR INAUGURAL MISSIONS UNDER KITTY'S COMMAND, THE X-MEN FACED A HIGHLY ADVANCED NANITE-BASED SENTINEL A.I., BUT HE ESCAPED ERADICATION AND KEPT A LOW PROFILE...UNTIL RECENTLY. DURING PIOTR'S LAS VEGAS BACHELOR PARTY, THE SENTINEL A.I.--NOW CALLING ITSELF "ALPHA" AND WORKING WITH THE MUTANT-HATING LYDIA NANCE-- KIDNAPPED THE GROOM-TO-BE IN ORDER TO CREATE A MUTANT-KILLING VIRUS WITH HIS BLOOD. THE TEAM RACED TO HIS LOCATION, BUT THEY WERE TOO LATE, AND WATCHED AS ALPHA AND PETER LAUNCHED INTO OUTER SPACE IN A ROCKET!

'TIL DEATH DO US PART

PART 3

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KITTY PRYDE

STORM
ORORO MUNROE

NIGHTCRAWLER
KURT WAGNER

COLOSSUS
PIOTR RASPUTIN

PRESTIGE
RACHEL GREY

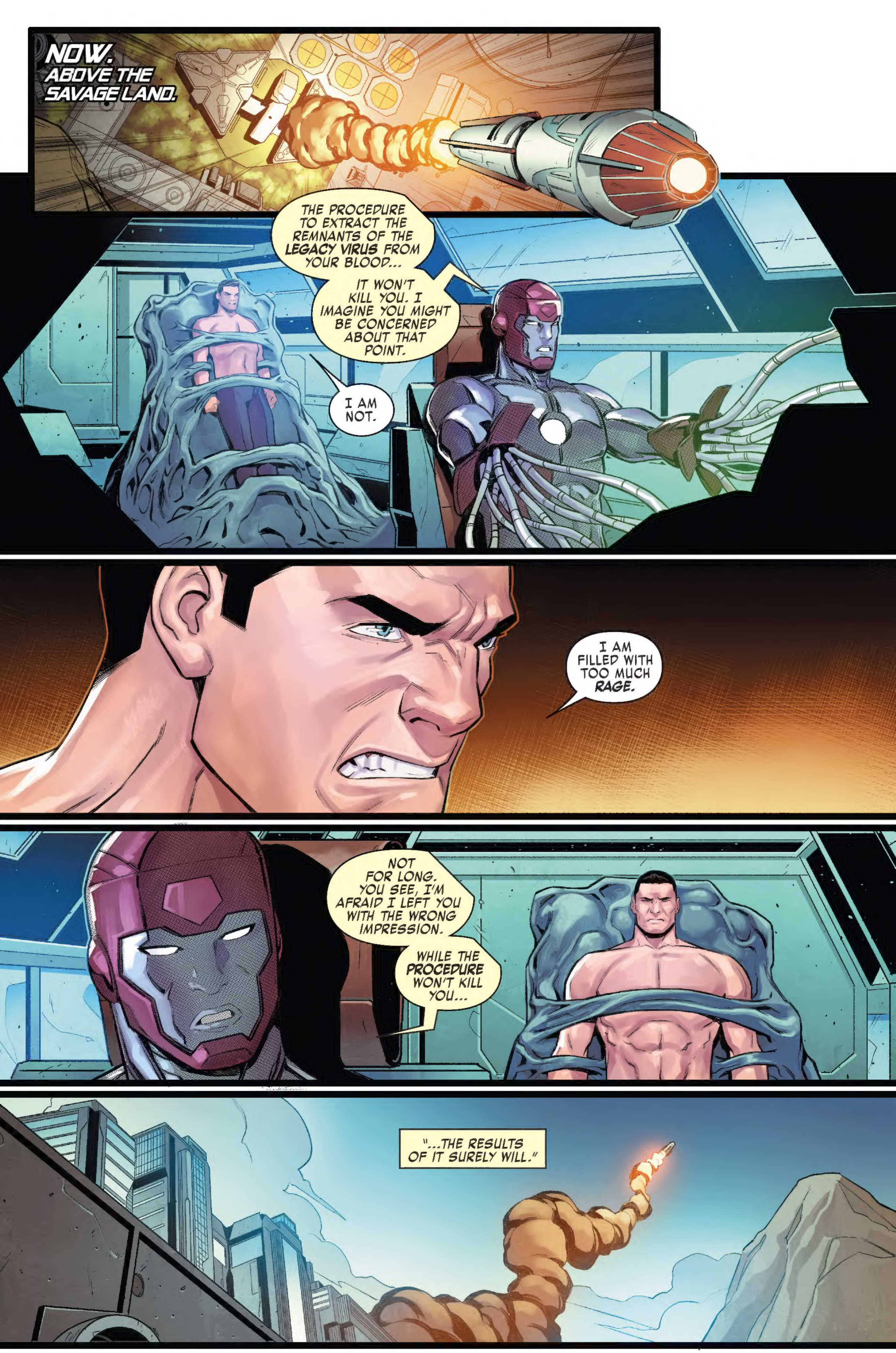
GENETECH LABORATORIES.
YEARS AGO.

MY NAME IS PIOTR NIKOLAIEVITCH RASPUTIN.

AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING TO ME.

I'VE BEEN HELD CAPTIVE HERE-- *TORTURED* HERE-- FOR SO LONG...

I KNOW NOTHING ELSE.


NOW.
ABOVE THE SAVAGE LAND.
THE PROCEDURE TO EXTRACT THE REMNANTS OF THE LEGACY VIRUS FROM YOUR BLOOD...
IT WON'T KILL YOU. I IMAGINE YOU MIGHT BE CONCERNED ABOUT THAT POINT.
I AM NOT.
I AM FILLED WITH TOO MUCH RAGE.
NOT FOR LONG. YOU SEE, I'M AFRAID I LEFT YOU WITH THE WRONG IMPRESSION.
WHILE THE PROCEDURE WON'T KILL YOU...
"...THE RESULTS OF IT SURELY WILL."

LAUNCH PLUS 3 SECONDS.
MUST GO FASTER, STORM...
I AM ENDEAVORING.
IT'S STILL COMING...
JUST HANG BACK, PYRO. DESPITE THE CONVENTIONAL WISDOM, YOU CAN'T FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE.
SO WHAT'D YOU HAVE IN MIND?
WIND AND ICE!

LAUNCH PLUS 6 SECONDS.

MEIN GOTT.

KITTY... PETER'S ON THAT SHIP.

IT'S OVER. HE'S OUT OF REACH.

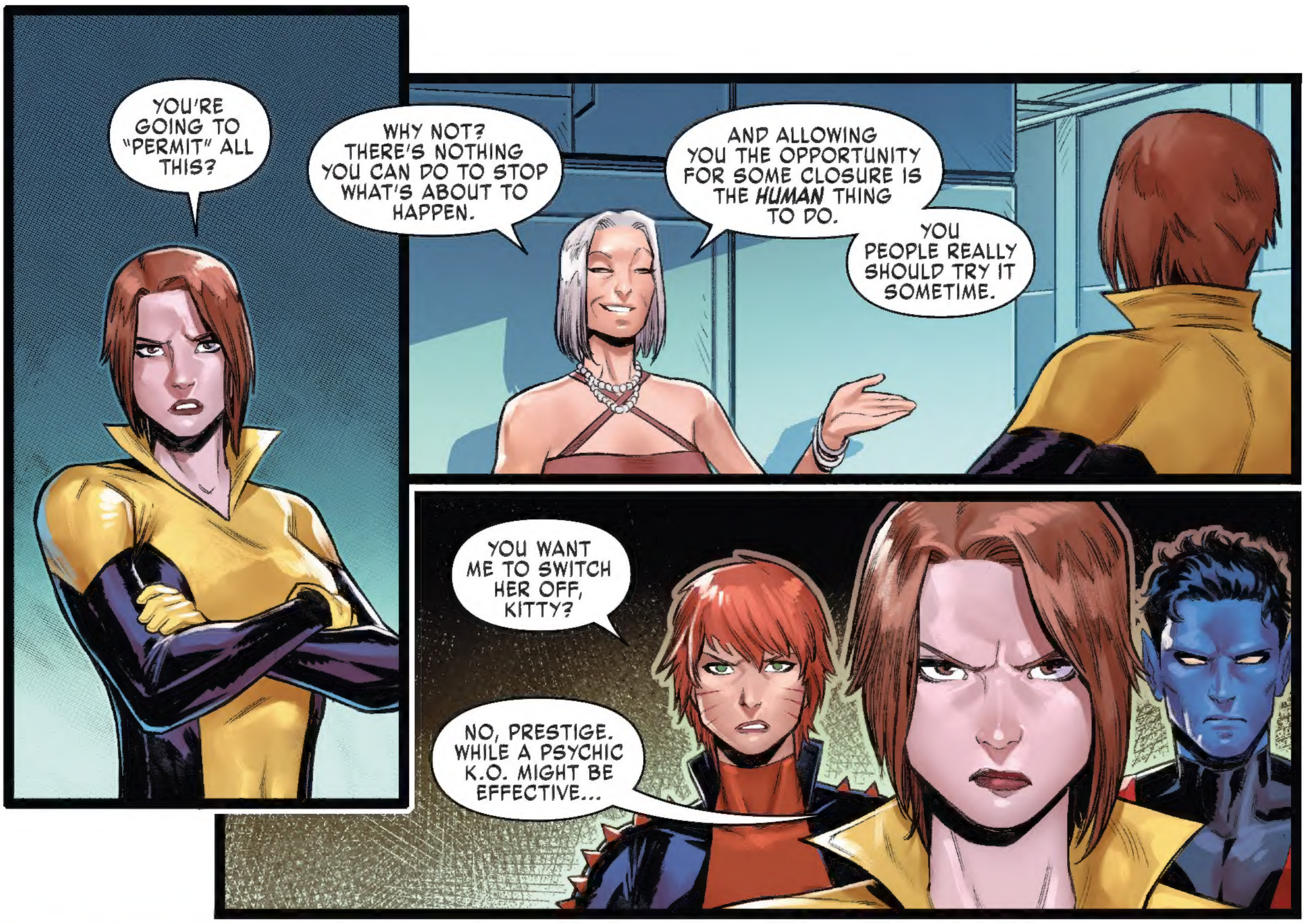
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU WANT WITH HIM, NANCE?!

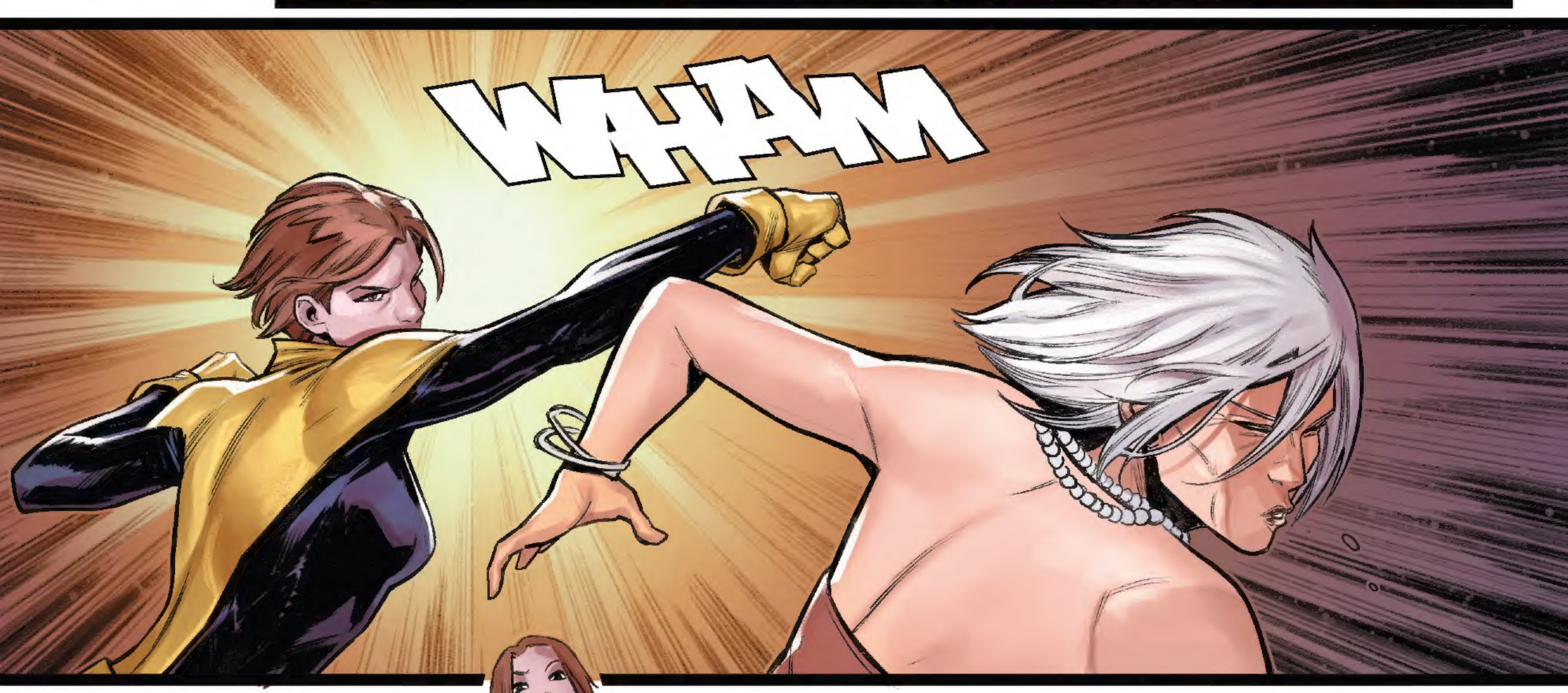
HIS BLOOD CONTAINS TRACES OF THE LEGACY VIRUS.

DR. RAO HARVESTED THOSE TRACES TO CRAFT "HOPE," HER CURE FOR MUTANTCY.

WE'VE DEVISED A *DIFFERENT* KIND OF "CURE."

A "CURE" FOR THE PLAGUE THAT IS MUTANT-KIND.
SELF-REPLICATING *NANITES* THAT WILL KILL ANYONE WHO POSSESSES AN X-GENE.
ALPHA WILL SPREAD THESE NANITES ACROSS THE GLOBE FROM ORBIT.
THAT'S GENOCIDE!!!
TO YOUR SPECIES, YES. TO MINE, IT'S *SURVIVAL.*
I'M *NOT* A MONSTER.
TO PROVE IT, I'M SENDING ALPHA'S DRONES AWAY.
I'M GOING TO PERMIT YOU TO LEAVE THIS PLACE, GET BACK ON YOUR MUTIE PLANE AND RETURN HOME.
HUG YOUR LOVED ONES. MAKE YOUR PEACE.
SAY YOUR GOODBYES.


YOU'RE GOING TO "PERMIT" ALL THIS?
WHY NOT? THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO STOP WHAT'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN.
AND ALLOWING YOU THE OPPORTUNITY FOR SOME CLOSURE IS THE *HUMAN* THING TO DO.
YOU PEOPLE REALLY SHOULD TRY IT SOMETIME.
YOU WANT ME TO SWITCH HER OFF, KITTY?
NO, PRESTIGE. WHILE A PSYCHIC K.O. MIGHT BE EFFECTIVE...


WHAM

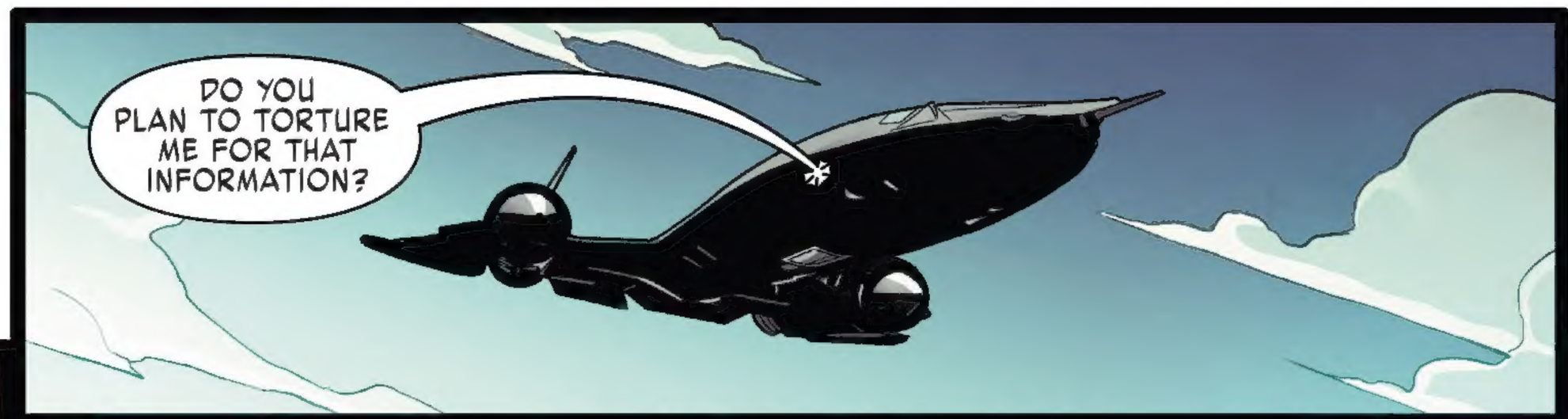
...IT'S NOT AS *SATISFYING.*
I WANTED TO DO THAT.

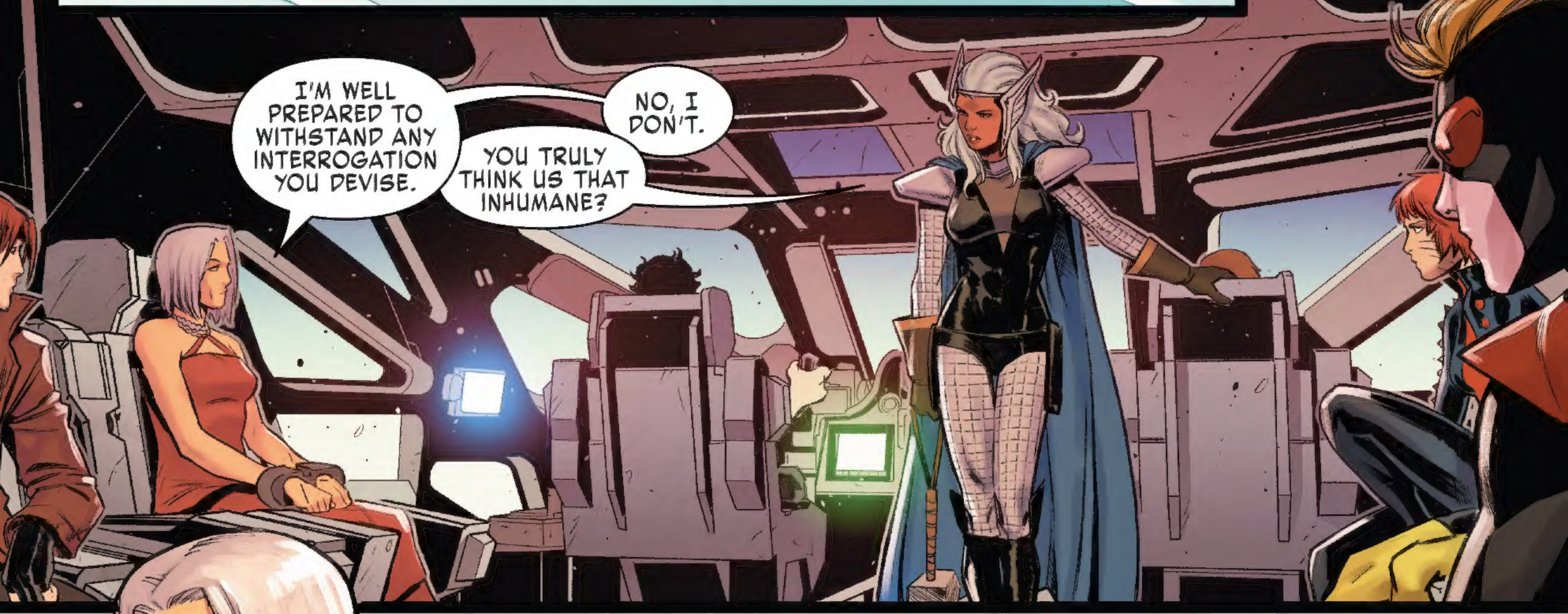
I COULD DIG INTO HER BRAIN. GIVE HER A LITTLE BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION.
NO DOUBT THAT'S TEMPTING. BUT IT WOULD MAKE US NO BETTER THAN HER, LOVE.
WE'RE FACING *GENOCIDE*, KURT. HOW'S IT WORKING OUT FOR US SO FAR?

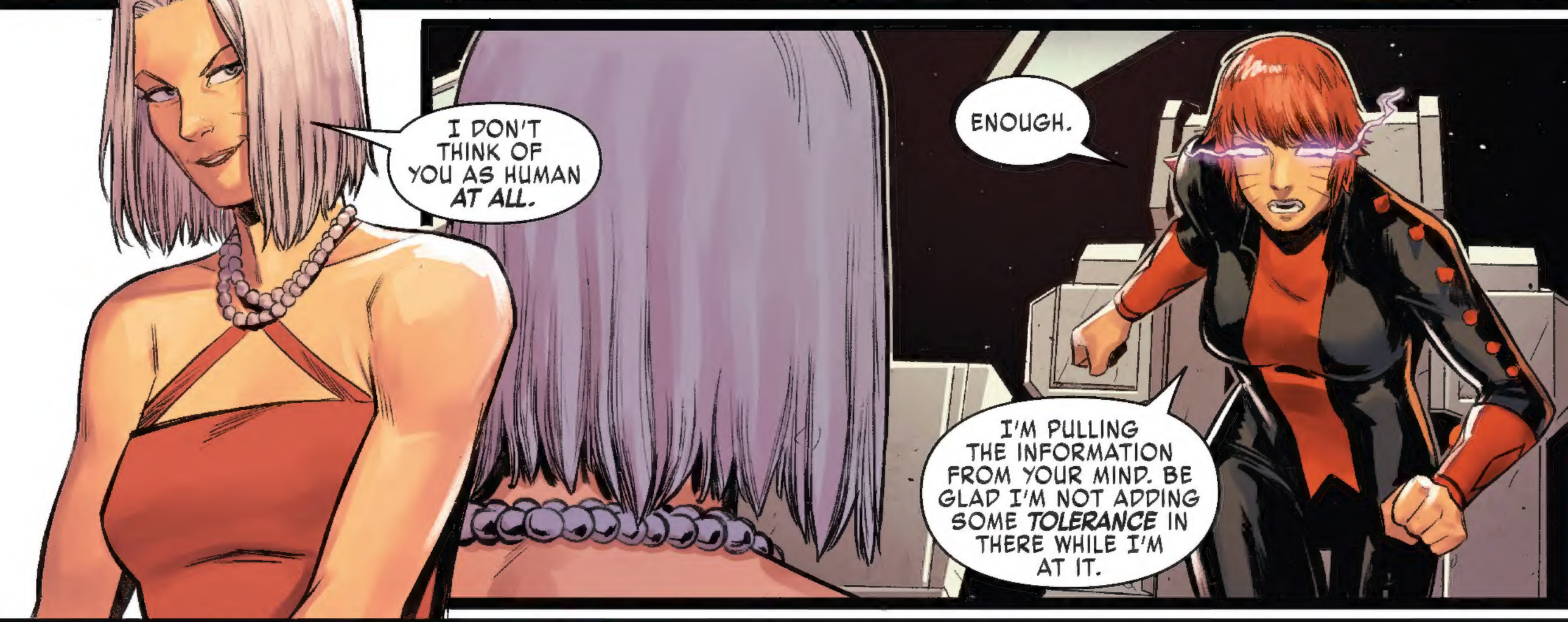
WE'LL DEBATE MS. NANCE LATER. WE'VE GOT BIGGER WORRIES.
X-MEN, SOUND OFF.

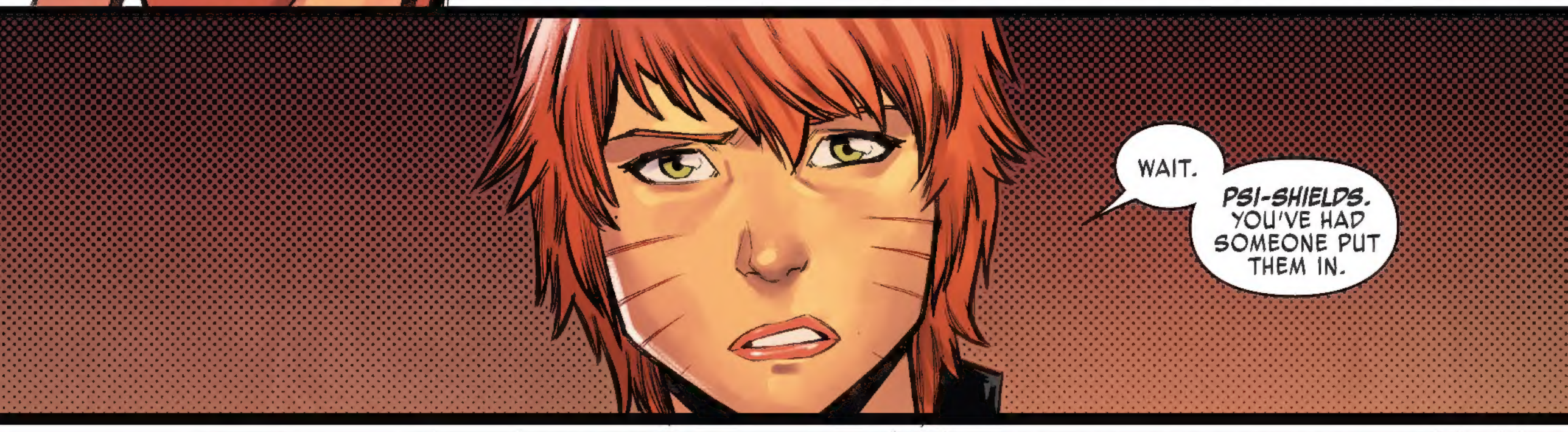
ICEMAN, PYRO AND I ARE UNHARMED, KITTEN.
IF NOT A LITTLE SHAKE-'N-BAKED.

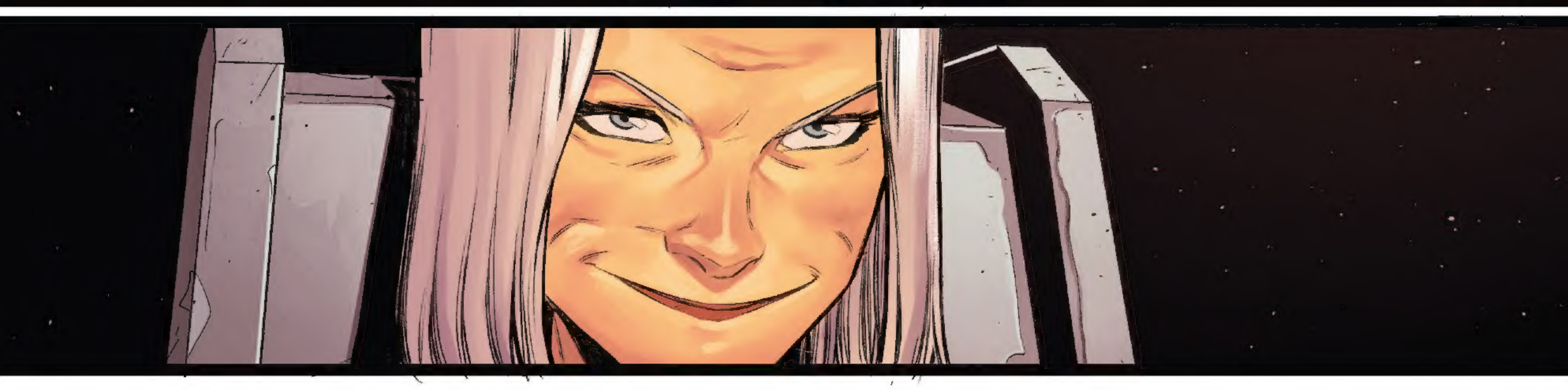
ROGUE?
GAMBIT AND I ARE HERE.
THOSE MINI-SENTINELS JUST UP 'N VANISHED.
IT'S A LONG STORY. RALLY AT THE JET AND I'LL EXPLAIN EN ROUTE.
EN ROUTE TO WHERE?


DO YOU PLAN TO TORTURE ME FOR THAT INFORMATION?


I'M WELL PREPARED TO WITHSTAND ANY INTERROGATION YOU DEVISE.
YOU TRULY THINK US THAT INHUMANE?
NO, I DON'T.

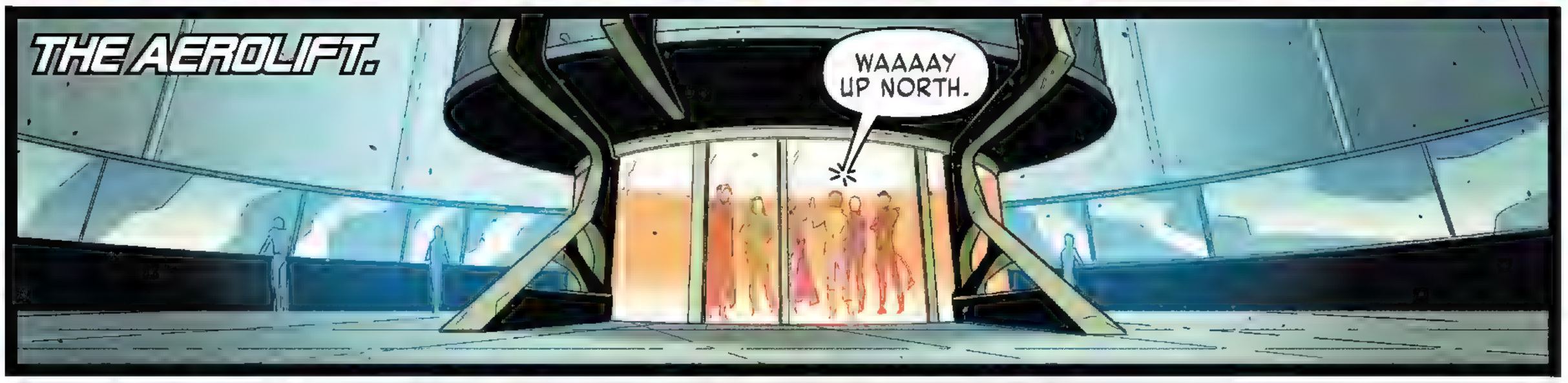

I DON'T THINK OF YOU AS HUMAN *AT ALL.*
ENOUGH.
I'M PULLING THE INFORMATION FROM YOUR MIND. BE GLAD I'M NOT ADDING SOME *TOLERANCE* IN THERE WHILE I'M AT IT.


WAIT.
PSI-SHIELDS. YOU'VE HAD SOMEONE PUT THEM IN.



AGHHH!!!
I'LL WIPE THAT SMUG GRIN RIGHT OFF YOUR FACE!
RACHEL!
DON'T YOU WANT ME TO GET PETER'S LOCATION OUT OF HER?
NNNNG--
PETER'S BEING TAKEN TO A DEFUNCT ROXXON OIL SPACE STATION.
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO OUTER SPACE.
BOBBY, SIMON...YOU'RE OUR BACKUP. KEEP A CLOSE EYE ON MS. NANCE WHILE YOU'RE AT IT.

THE TRISKELION.
"JUST OUTTA CURIOSITY, HOW'RE WE S'POSED T'GET OURSELVES INTO SPACE?"
WE'RE GONNA BORROW A SHIP FROM OUR FRIENDS FROM UP NORTH.

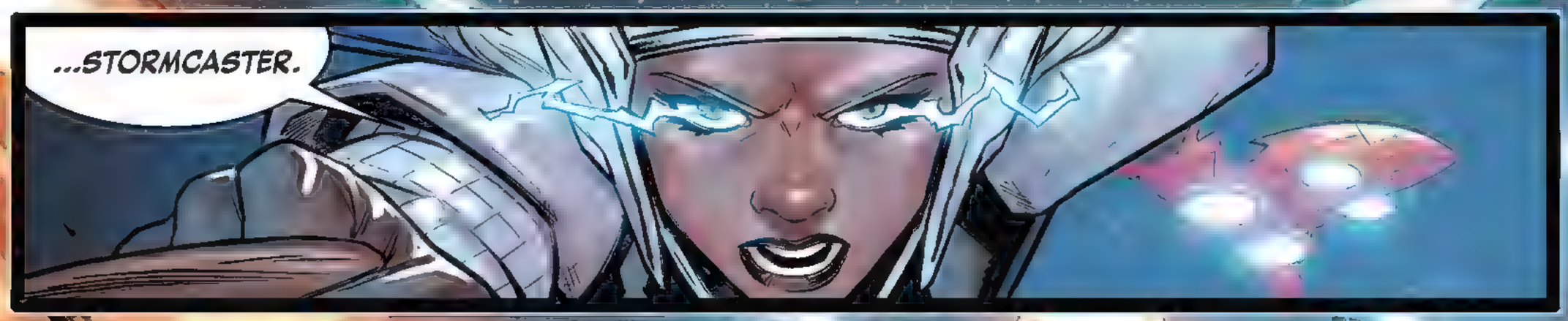

THE AEROLIFT.
WAAAAY UP NORTH.

ALPHA FLIGHT SPACE STATION.

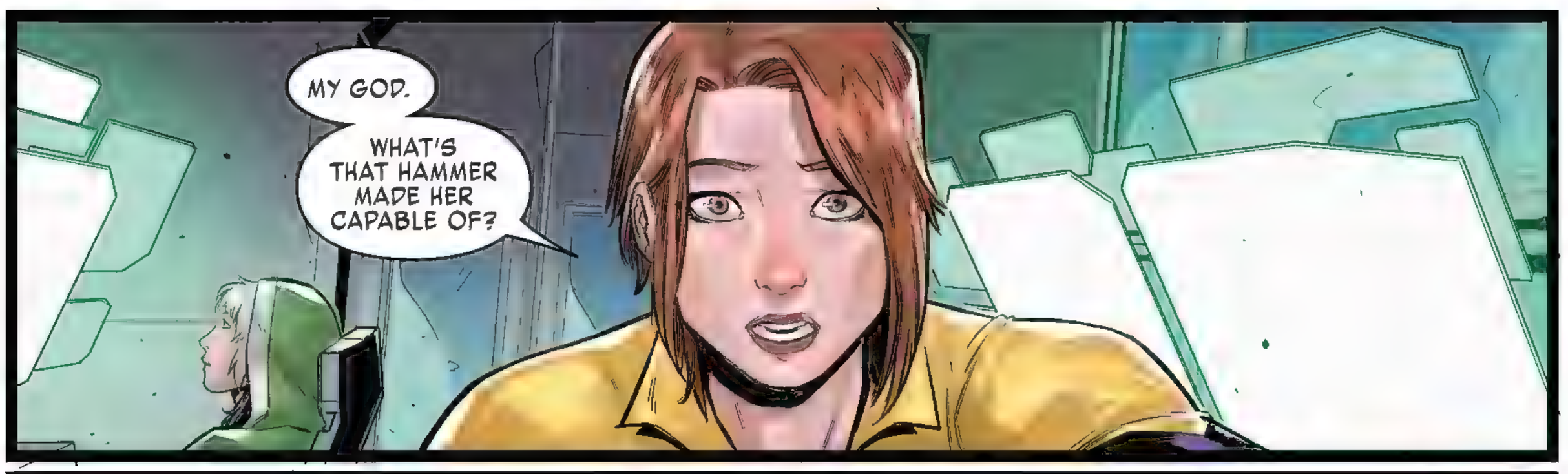
KITTY. BEEN A WHILE.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP, PUCK.

YOU WANT MORE'N A SHIP? YOU NEED SOME MUSCLE TO GO WITH IT?
WHAT I NEED IS YOUR PILOTS SHOOTING DOWN ANYTHING THAT MIGHT GET LAUNCHED FROM THAT ROXXON STATION.
THAT WE CAN MANAGE.
GOOD LUCK, EH?
BRRRRRRMMMMM
HOW'S IT HANDLE, FUZZY ELF?
WELL ENOUGH.
THE TRUE TEST WILL COME WHEN WE HAVE TO EVADE THE ROXXON STATION'S OFFENSIVE CAPABILITIES.
IT'S A DEFUNCT STATION THAT WAS RUN BY AN OIL CONGLOMERATE. WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THEY'LL EVEN HAVE WEAPONRY?
OH...

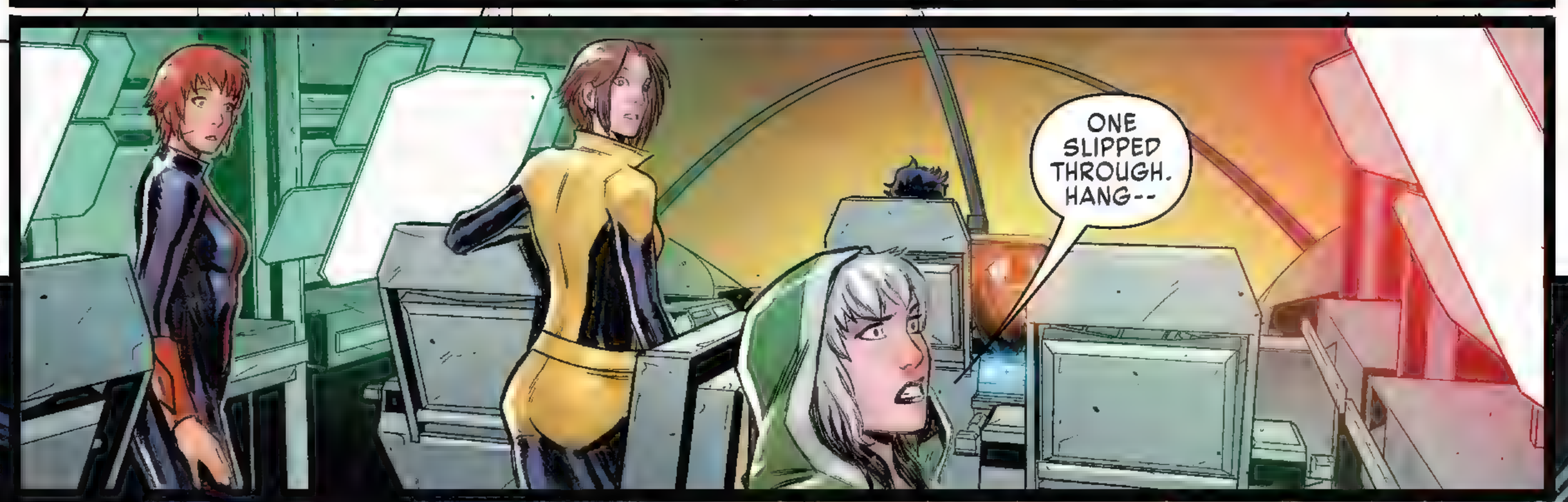
EVASIVE ACTION!
NOW WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THAT?
SARCASM? NOW? SERIOUSLY?



KRAKAKAKOOOOM

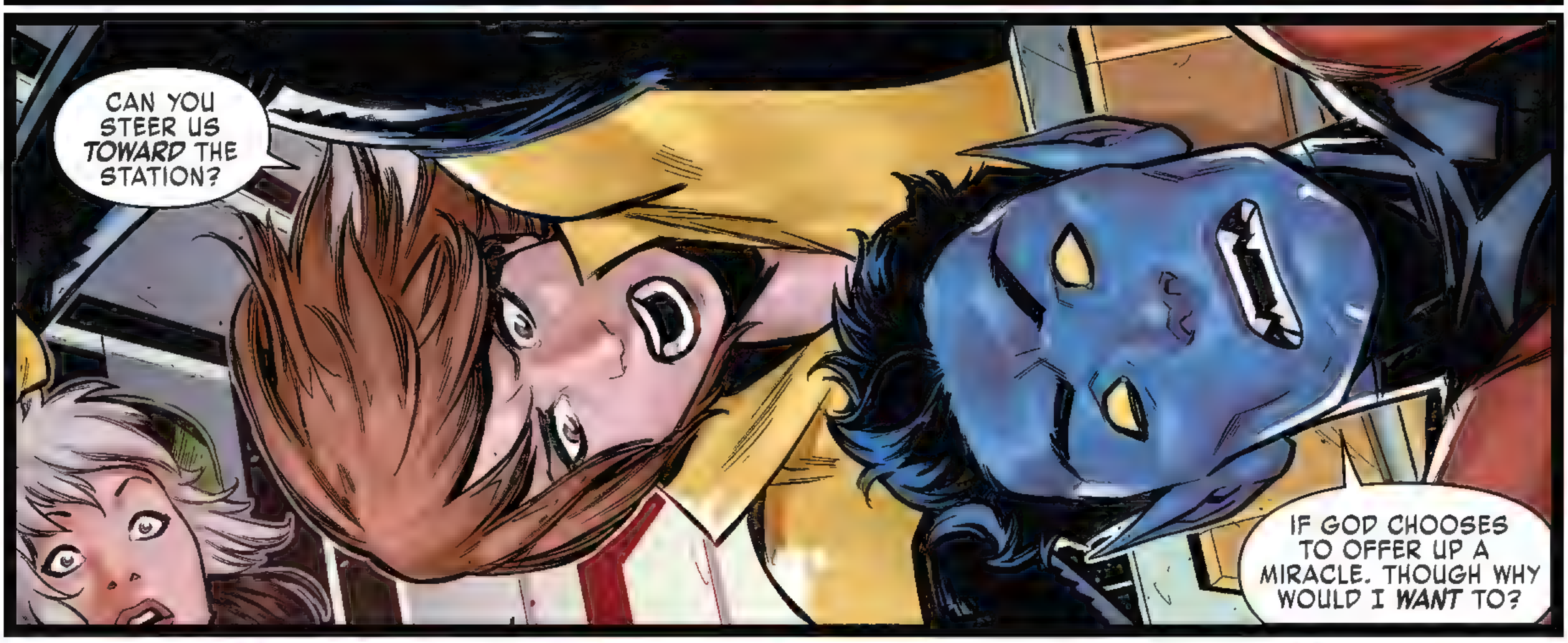

MY GOD.
WHAT'S THAT HAMMER MADE HER CAPABLE OF?

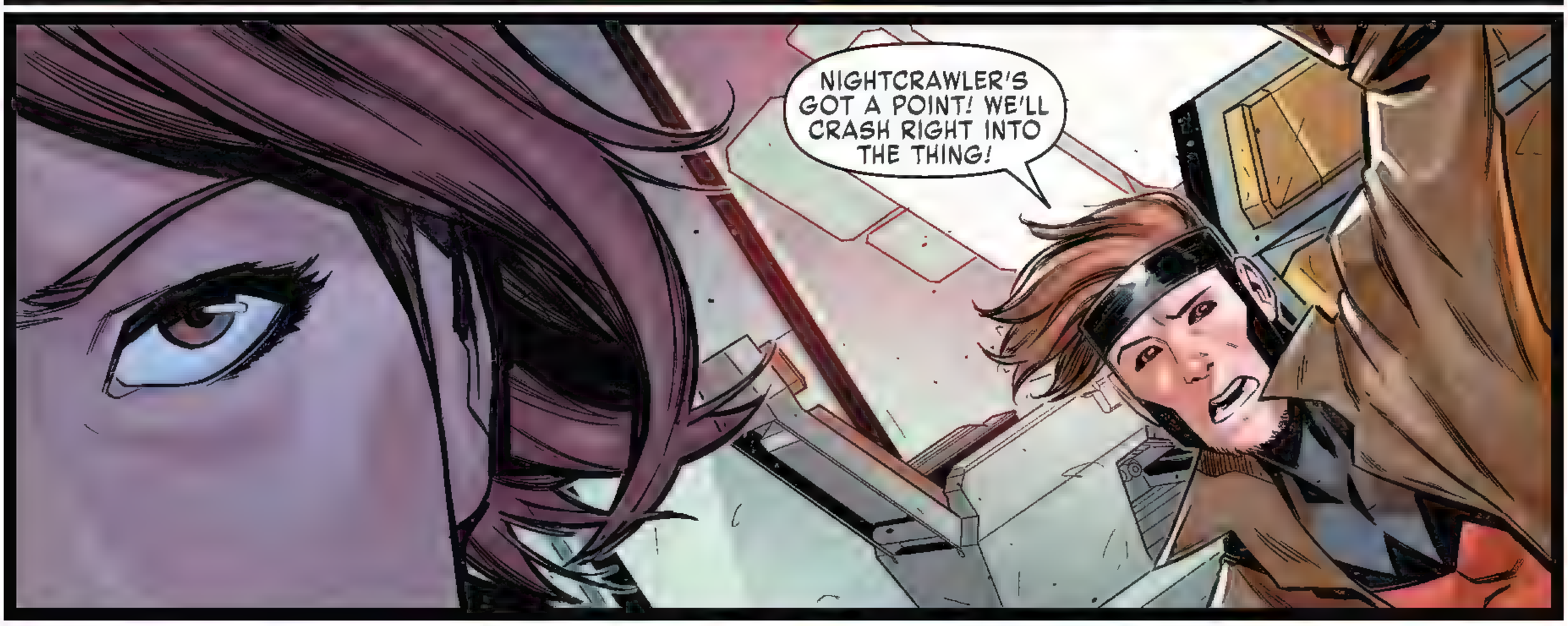
THAT'S IT? *THAT* WAS NANCE'S ANTI-MUTANT WEAPON?
NO. THOSE WERE JUST ANTI-US MISSILES--
WAIT.

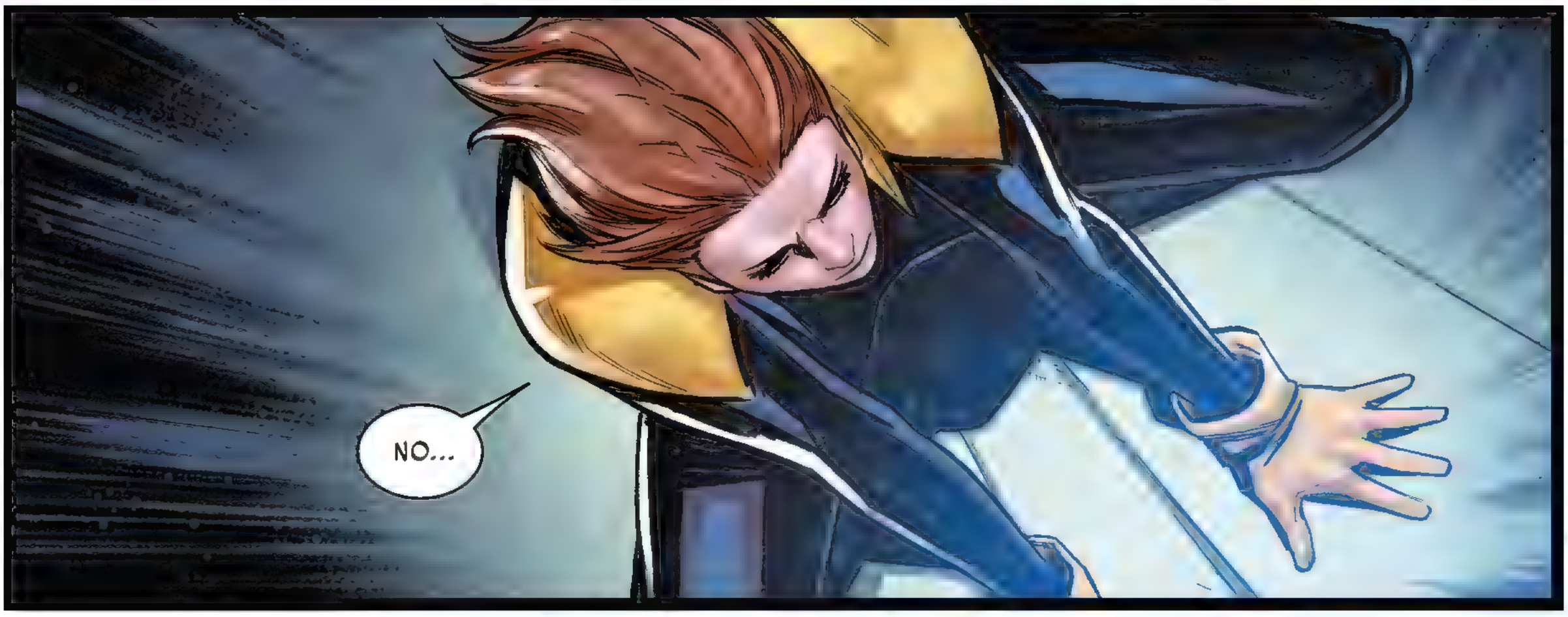

ONE SLIPPED THROUGH. HANG--

KRAKOOM

I'M LOSING CONTROL OF HER...


CAN YOU STEER US *TOWARD* THE STATION?
IF GOD CHOOSES TO OFFER UP A MIRACLE. THOUGH WHY WOULD I *WANT* TO?


NIGHTCRAWLER'S GOT A POINT! WE'LL CRASH RIGHT INTO THE THING!


NO...

"WE WON'T"

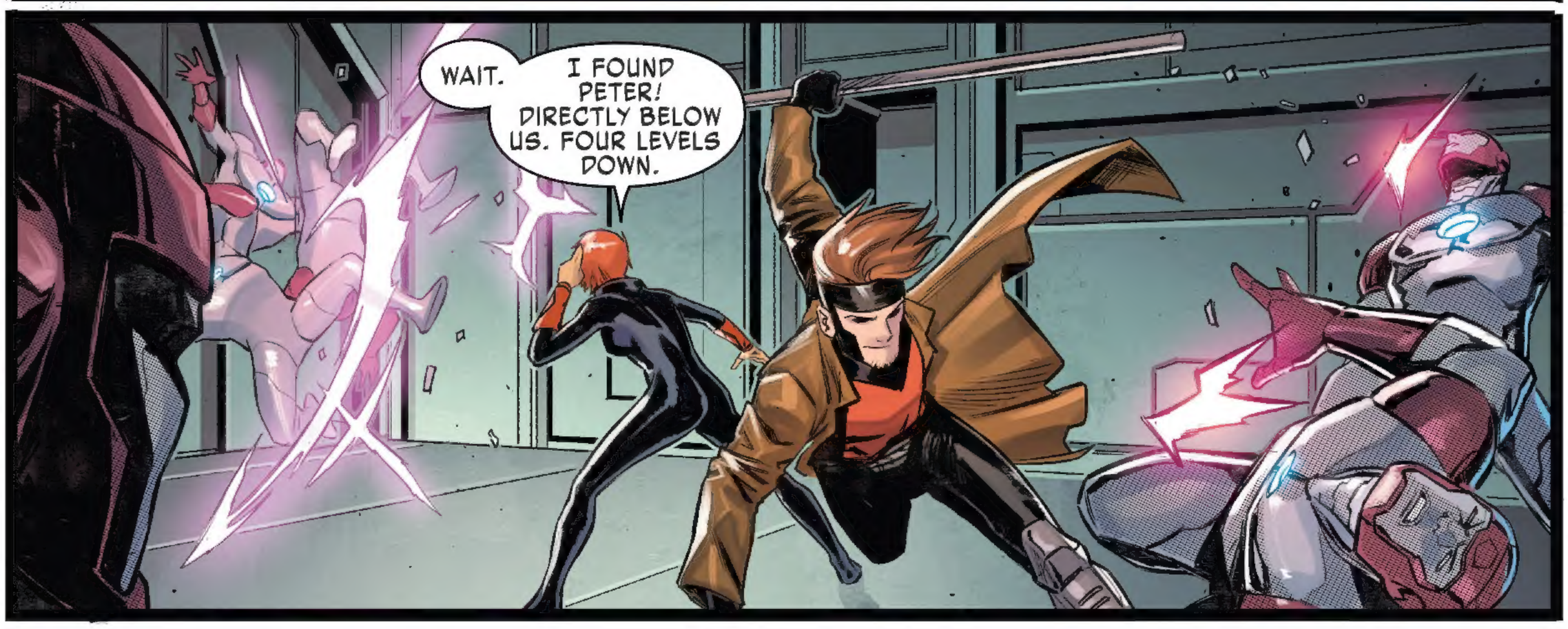
KOOOOOM
EVERYONE OKAY?
I WOULDN'T EXACTLY PUT IT THAT WAY, KÄTZCHEN.
ANY LANDING YOU CAN WALK AWAY FROM...
YOU CALL THAT A LANDING?
FOCUS. WE'VE GOTTA FIND PETER AND THE X-GENE WEAPON.
RACHEL?

I CAN SENSE HIM ON THE STATION. WORKING ON A LOCATION...

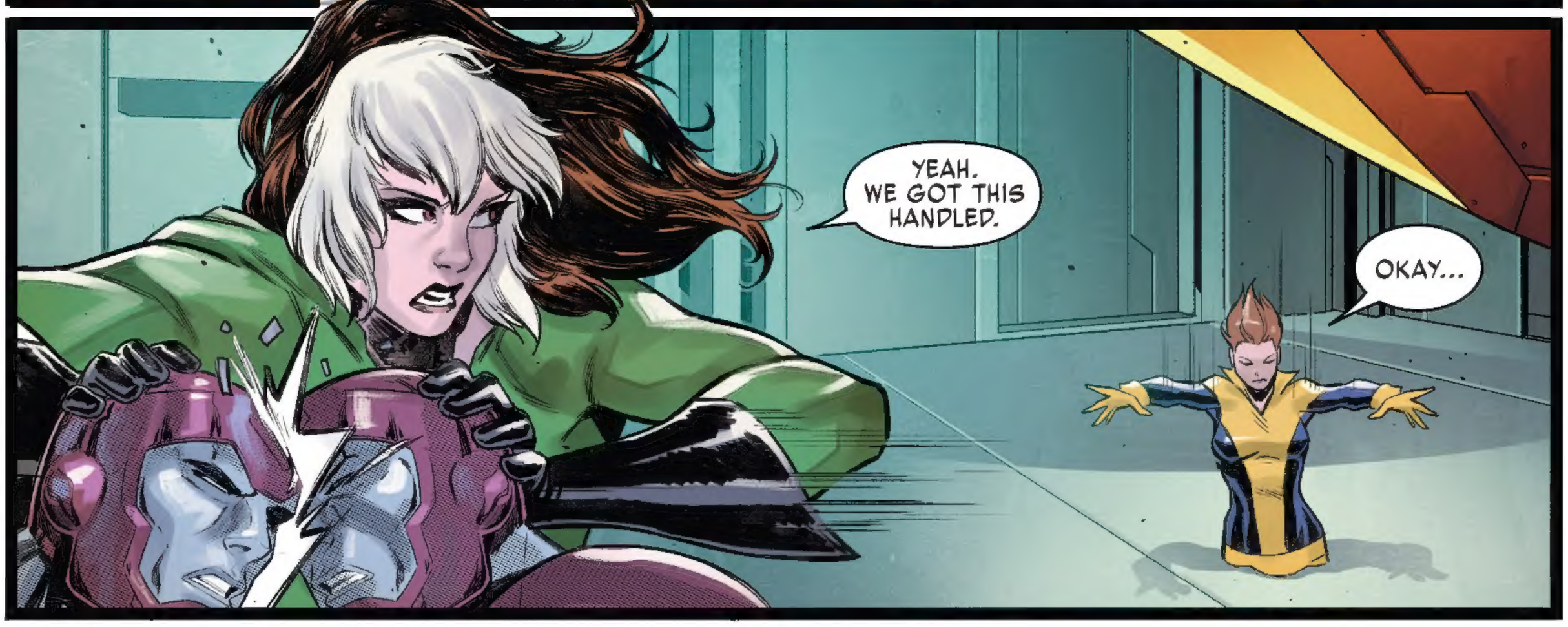
WAIT. I'M PICKING UP SOMETHING ELSE...

ZZZZZVVVVRRMMM
A BUNCH OF SOMETHINGS!

HOW'S THIS SUCKA MAKE SO *MANY* OF HIMSELF?
IT'S A STALLING TACTIC. HE'S BUYING TIME TO LAUNCH THE WEAPON.


WAIT.
I FOUND PETER! DIRECTLY BELOW US. FOUR LEVELS DOWN.

PHASE DOWN, KÄTZCHEN.


YEAH. WE GOT THIS HANDLED.
OKAY...

HANG ON, PETER...
SHRAM
...I'M COMING FOR YOU.
"JUST HANG ON."
TO BE CONTINUED!

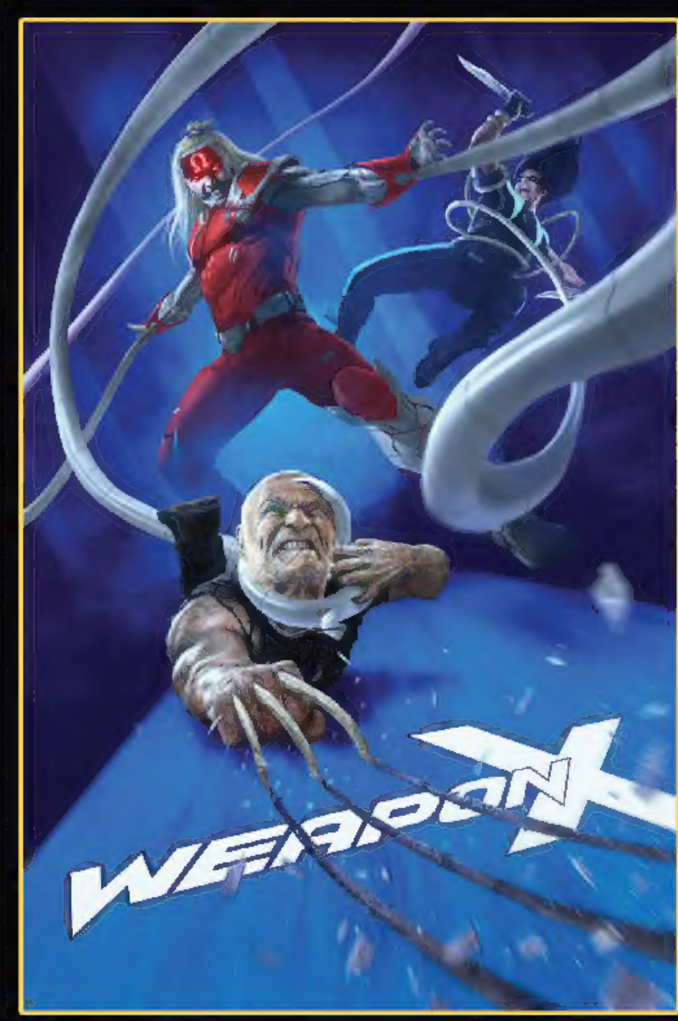
X-MEN GOLD

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO
OFFICEX@MARVEL.COM

IN TWO WEEKS...

#29: HAPPILY EVER AFTER?

WEAPON X #18
ON SALE NOW



X-MEN BLUE #28
NEXT WEEK

DOMINO #3
IN THREE WEEKS

ZONE